

TEMPORARY SWITCH TO CHLORINE DECONTAMINATION SCHEDULED FOR JUNE 8TH –
JULY 27TH, 2020

As you may recall, the Martin County Regional Water and Sewer Authority (MCRWASA), the Town of Williamston (inside and outside town limits) and Martin County Water District #2 changed the disinfectant used in water treatment from chlorine to chloramines in June of 2016. This change was intended to benefit our customers by reducing the levels of disinfection byproducts (DBPs) in the system, while still providing protection from waterborne disease.

State drinking water guidelines recommend that water systems using chloramines periodically switch back to free chlorine (chlorine alone) for a minimum of three weeks. This brief, scheduled change in disinfectant is a standard water treatment practice to keep water mains clean and free of potentially harmful bacteria throughout the year.

This is an annual adjustment that is often performed in communities with surface water treatment plants.

The temporary switch for this year has been scheduled for June 8th – July 27th, 2020.

Switching to free chlorine at this time is a proactive step to ensure that we maintain optimal levels of disinfection in the water distribution system. As always, the drinking water will be regularly monitored to ensure that the water delivered meets or is better than Federal Safe Drinking Water Act standards.

During this temporary change to free chlorine, customers may notice a slight change in the taste or smell of their tap water. The mild chlorine taste and smell is normal and poses no health risk. Most customers will not need to take any precautions, as the water remains safe to drink and is treated according to both state and federal standards. People and businesses that normally take special precautions to remove chloramines from tap water, such as dialysis centers, medical facilities and aquatic pet owners, should continue to take the same precautions during the temporary switch from chloramines to free chlorine.